

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicants regard as the invention.

Reconsideration of the application based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. 112 Rejections

Claims 1 to 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicants regard as the invention.

An enlarged section of Figure 2 is attached. It can be clearly seen from this picture that the carrier at region 29 can overlap the intermediate region of spring 10a. (See Specification in paragraph [0029]). “It may be inferred from Figure 2 that intermediate coils 28 have a play and/or clearance 30 in relation to regions 29 of a carrier 25 which overlap them radially on the outside.” (See specification paragraph [0029], Lines 10 to 12). The carrier region of the carrier is radially outside the intermediate region of the spring, and overlaps this intermediate region.

Proper antecedent basis also exists for “further spring” in claim 3. Claim 3 initially addresses “a further spring” in line 2, and in line 4 of claim 3, that in question, is recited as “the further spring.”

Withdrawal of the rejections of independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and the dependent claims 2 to 16 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

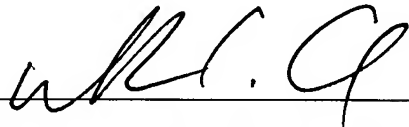
It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

If any additional fees are deemed to be due at this time, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully submitted,

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